

Ground State Phase Diagram of $S = 1$ XXZ Chains with Uniaxial Single-Ion-Type Anisotropy

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One dimensional $S = 1$ XXZ chains with uniaxial single-ion-type anisotropy are studied by numerical exact diagonalization of finite size systems. The numerical data are analyzed using conformal field theory, the level spectroscopy, phenomenological renormalization group and finite size scaling method. We thus present the first quantitatively reliable ground state phase diagram of this model. The ground states of this model contain the Haldane phase, large- D phase, Néel phase, two XY phases and the ferromagnetic phase. There are four different types of transitions between these phases: the Brezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless type transitions, the Gaussian type transitions, the Ising type transitions and the first order transitions. The location of these critical lines are accurately determined.

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I. INTRODUCTION

One dimensional antiferromagnetic spin chains have been the subject of recent investigations by numerous groups. A uniform antiferromagnetic Heisenberg chain is known to have a gapless ground state for half-integer-spin. In particular, the exact solution is available for $S = 1/2$ chains[1]. In contrast, for integer-spin[2], there is a gap between the first excited state and the ground state. This state is destroyed by various types of perturbations such as single-ion type anisotropy, exchange anisotropy and bond alternation. In this context, the $S = 1$ XXZ chain with single ion anisotropy has been studied by many authors from the early stage of the study of Haldane gap problem. In spite of its long history of the study and fundamental importance, however, a quantitatively reliable phase diagram of this model has not yet been published. In the present work, we present the quantitative phase diagram of this model analyzing the exact diagonalization data by various methods including the recently developed level spectroscopy method[3] based on conformal field theory and renormalization group.

This paper is organized as follows. In the next section, the model Hamiltonian is defined and the obtained phase diagram is presented. The numerical exact diagonalization results and methods of analysis are explained in §3. The final section is devoted to a summary and discussion.

II. MODEL HAMILTONIAN AND GROUND STATE PHASE DIAGRAM

The Hamiltonian is given by

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{l=1}^N [J(S_l^x S_{l+1}^x + S_l^y S_{l+1}^y) + J_z S_l^z S_{l+1}^z] + D \sum_{l=1}^N S_l^{z2}, \quad (1)$$

where \vec{S}_l is a spin-1 operator. The parameter D represents uniaxial single-ion anisotropy. The periodic boundary condition is assumed unless specifically mentioned. In what follows, we set $J = 1$ to fix the energy scale. The ground state phase diagram of this model consists of the Haldane phase, the large- D phase, two XY phases, the ferromagnetic phase and the Néel phase[4, 5]. Between these phases, various types of phase transitions take place. There is a gapful phase to gapful phase transition (Gaussian transition) between the Haldane phase and large- D phase, gapful-gapless BKT transitions between the XY phase and the Haldane or large- D phase, an Ising transition between the Néel phase and Haldane phase, a first-order transition between the ferromagnetic phase and the large- D phase or XY phase. The character of the transition between the large- D and Néel phase is still unclear although it is likely to be the first order transition.

Our phase diagram is summarized in Figure 1. For $J_z > 0$, the Haldane-large- D transition line of is shown by the Δ . For large D , the ground state becomes a large- D phase, the Haldane phase appears under the large- D phase. With the decrease of D , the ground state becomes the Néel phase. The line with the symbol \circ represents the Haldane-Néel transition line. For large D and J_z , the direct large- D -Néel transition takes place along the line with \bullet . For $J_z \leq 0$, the XY-Haldane or XY-large- D BKT transition line is represented by the line with symbol \diamond . The XY-ferromagnetic first order transition line is represented by the line with symbol \square . The large-

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D -ferromagnetic first order transition line is represented by the line with symbol ∇ . The critical line between the two XY phases is denoted by the line with symbol $+$. The ferromagnetic-XY-large- D tricritical point is represented by \times symbol. In the following, we explain how this phase diagram is obtained by our numerical analysis.

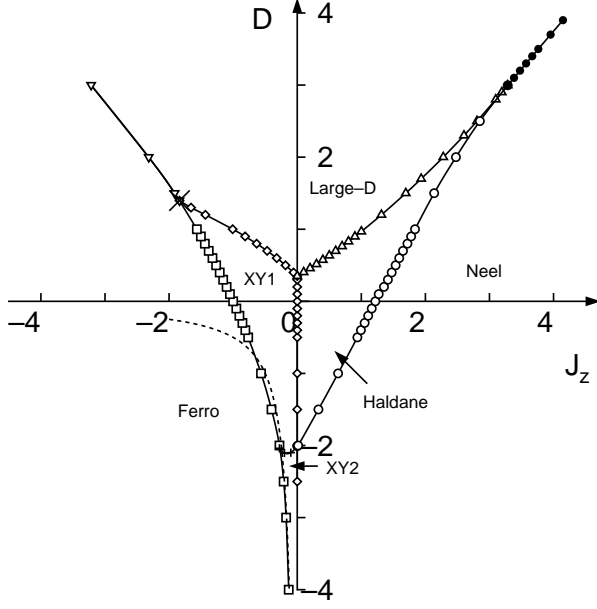


FIG. 1: The phase diagram of $S = 1$ XXZ chains with uniaxial single-ion-type anisotropy. The solid lines and symbols are the transition lines. The dotted line shows the curve $J_z = -\frac{1}{2|D|}$ expected from the perturbation calculation for large negative D .

III. NUMERICAL ANALYSIS

A. Haldane-Large- D transition line ($J_z > 0$ and $D > 0$)

This phase transition is the Gaussian transition. In order to determine the phase boundary with high accuracy, we use the twisted boundary method of Kitazawa and Nomura [7, 8, 9]. The Hamiltonian is numerically diagonalized to calculate the two low lying energy levels with the twisted boundary condition ($S_{N+1}^x = -S_1^x$, $S_{N+1}^y = -S_1^y$, $S_{N+1}^z = S_1^z$) for $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$ and 16 by the Lanczos method.

It is known that the ground state is the Haldane phase with a valence bond solid (VBS) structure for small D . Under the twisted boundary condition, the eigenvalues of the space inversion P ($\vec{S}_i \rightarrow \vec{S}_{N-i+1}$) and the spin reversal T ($S_i^z \rightarrow -S_i^z$, $S_i^\pm \rightarrow -S_i^\mp$) are all equal to -1 in this phase [7, 8, 9]. As D increases with positive value, a phase transition takes place from the Haldane to the large- D phase for which $P = 1$ and $T = 1$. The origin of these values of P and T is closely related to

the edge spins that characterize the Haldane phase as follows. In the Haldane phase, the two edge spins form a triplet state with positive P and T under the twisted boundary condition. Consequently, those of the whole system, which contains an odd number of singlet pairs, become negative for even N . This phenomenon does not take place in the large- D that has no edge spins and these states have positive P and T eigenvalues. Thus we make use of the P and T eigenvalues to distinguish the Haldane phase and the large- D phase with high accuracy. For example, if J_z is fixed, the energies of the two states vary with D . For small D , the energy of the Haldane state is lower than that of the large- D state. As D increases, the large- D state becomes lower than the Haldane state. The two levels cross at one point $D = D_{c(\text{HL})}(N)$. This is the finite size Haldane-large- D transition point. Figure 2 shows the D -dependence of the two lowest levels for $N = 16$ and $J_z = 0.5$. We extrapolate the critical point as $D_{c(\text{HL})}(N) = D_{c(\text{HL})}(\infty) + aN^{-2} + bN^{-4}$. Figure 3 shows the extrapolation procedure. The same procedure can be carried out varying J_z with fixed D .

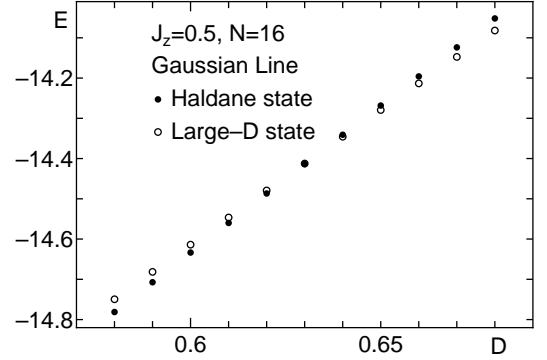


FIG. 2: The D -dependence of the two lowest energy eigenvalues with twist boundary condition. The energies of the Haldane state and the large- D state are represented by \bullet and \circ , respectively, for $N = 16$ and $J_z = 0.5$.

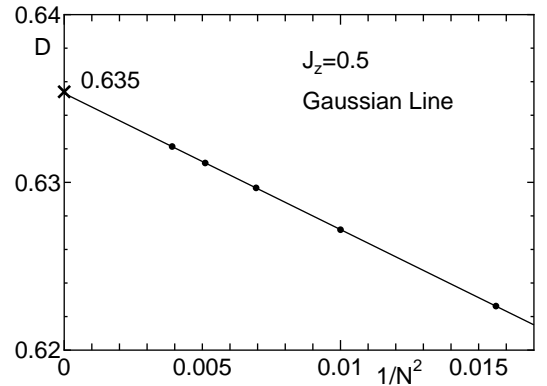


FIG. 3: The extrapolation procedure of finite size $D_{c(\text{HL})}$ for $J_z = 0.5$.

In this case the transition line is expected to be de-

scribed by the conformal field theory with conformal central charge $c = 1$. To check this, we estimate the value of c . On the critical line, the system is conformally invariant so that a finite size correction to the ground state energy is related to the central charge c and the spin wave velocity v_S as follows, [12, 13, 14]

$$\frac{1}{N}E_g(N) \cong \varepsilon_\infty - \frac{\pi c v_S}{6N^2}, \quad (2)$$

$$v_S = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N}{2\pi} [E_{k_1}(N) - E_g(N)]. \quad (3)$$

Here $E_g(N)$ is the ground state energy and $E_{k_1}(N)$ is the energy of the excited state with wave number $k_1 = \frac{2\pi}{N}$

and magnetization $M^z (= \sum_{l=1}^N S_l^z) = 0$. The ground state

has $M^z = 0$ and $k = 0$. Also, ε_∞ is the ground state energy per unit cell in the thermodynamic limit. We calculate $E_g(N)$ and $E_{k_1}(N)$ by the Lanczos exact diagonalization method under periodic boundary conditions on the transition line. The system sizes are $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$ and 16. The size extrapolation is carried out using the formula $c(N) = c + C_1 N^{-2} + C_2 N^{-4}$. The central charge c is close to unity within the range $0 \leq J_z \lesssim 1$ on the phase boundary as shown in Figure 4. Therefore, we expect that the present model can be described by a Gaussian model on the critical line. For $J_z \gtrsim 1$, the numerically estimated value of c starts to deviate from unity. Presumably, this is due to the influence of the Haldane-Néel Ising critical line that is approaching the large- D -Haldane line from below.

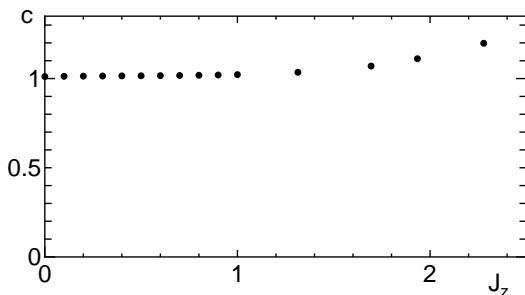


FIG. 4: The J_z dependence of the numerically obtained central charge c .

B. Haldane-Néel and large- D -Néel transition lines ($J_z > 0$)

From symmetry consideration, these transition lines are expected to be Ising type transitions. However, for $J_z/J, D/J \rightarrow \infty$, the ground state is determined by the simple classical competition between the ideal large- D state $|00000..>$ for which $E_g(N) = 0$ and ideal Néel

states $|1-11-1..>$ or $|-11-11..>$ for which $E_g(N) = N(D - J_z)$. Therefore a first order transition between these two states is expected. It is not obvious, however, whether quantum fluctuation due to the J term drives this first order transition to a second order transition.

In order to check this issue, we directly calculate the behavior of the staggered magnetization across the phase boundary. Let us focus on the system size dependence of M_{stag} . In the Néel phase, M_{stag} should increase with N and tend to a finite value as $N \rightarrow \infty$. On the other hand, it should decrease with N in the large- D phase. The N -dependence of M_{stag}^2 is plotted against $1/N$ for $D = 3.7$ in Figure 5. The difference of the behavior for $J_z \geq 4.0$ and $J_z \leq 3.9$ is distinct. Therefore we expect that the phase boundary between the large- D and Néel phases is a first order transition line even for finite D .

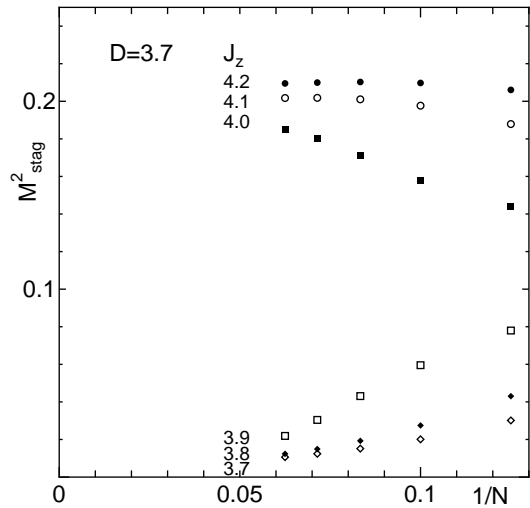


FIG. 5: The N dependence of the numerically obtained M_{stag}^2 for $D = 3.7$ for various values of J_z .

The Haldane-large- D transition line approaches these lines from above and the multicritical point is expected to appear at the crossing point. However, it is not easy to determine the accurate location of the multicritical point. Therefore we discuss the large- D -Néel and Haldane-Néel critical lines as a whole and roughly estimate the position of the multicritical point from the behavior of these two lines and the Haldane-large- D transition line.

We employ the phenomenological renormalization group (PRG) method to determine these phase transition lines. The Hamiltonian is numerically diagonalized to calculate the lowest energy gap $\Delta E(N)$ in the periodic boundary condition for $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$ and 16 using the Lanczos algorithm. The Néel state is two fold degenerate in the thermodynamic limit. For finite N , this degeneracy is lifted and the energy difference between them gives the smallest gap $\Delta E(N, J_z, D)$ which decreases exponentially with N . On the other hand, in the Haldane and large- D phases, the energy gap $\Delta E(N)$ remains finite in the thermodynamic limit. Thus the product $N\Delta E(N)$ increases (decreases) with

N for $J_z < J_{zc}(\text{HN,LN})$ ($J_z > J_{zc}(\text{HN,LN})$) where $J_{zc}(\text{HN})$ and $J_{zc}(\text{LN})$ are the critical value of J_z of the Haldane-Néel and large- D -Néel transition, respectively. Furthermore, on the Ising critical line, the critical exponent for the energy gap is equal to unity. Therefore, the product $N\Delta E(N, J_z, D)$ should be size independent for large enough systems in which the contribution from irrelevant operators is negligible. Due to this situation, we can accurately determine the Ising critical point by PRG method. According to the PRG argument, the intersection of $N\Delta E(N)$ for two successive values of $N_1 = N$ and $N_2 (= N + 2)$ defines the finite size critical point $J_{zc}(\text{HN,LN})(N_1, N_2)$ [15] as shown in Figure 6.

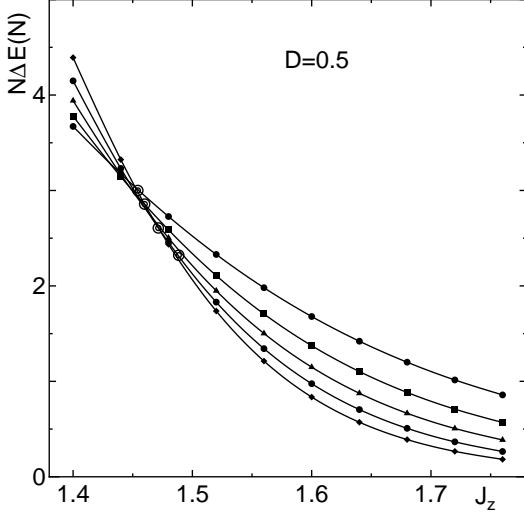


FIG. 6: The J_z -dependence of $N\Delta E(N)$ with $D = 0.5$ for $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$ and 16 . The intersections (double circles) are the finite size critical points.

Figure 7 represents the extrapolation procedure of the Haldane-Néel transition point for $D = 0.5$. The values of $J_{zc}(\text{HN})(N_1, N_2)$ for four pairs of system sizes $(N_1, N_2) = (8, 10), (10, 12), (12, 14)$ and $(14, 16)$ are represented by \bullet in Figure 7. These values are extrapolated using the formula $J_{zc}(\text{HN,LN})(N_1, N_2) = J_{zc}(\text{HN,LN})(\infty) + 2C_1/(N_1 + N_2) + 4C_2/(N_1 + N_2)^2$ to obtain $J_{zc}(\text{HN}) = 1.536$. The second term is necessary for small D and J_z for which the contribution from the irrelevant operators are not negligible for the present system size. Actually, as D and J_z increases the system size dependence becomes weak and for $2.4 \lesssim D \lesssim 3.0$, the system size dependence of the critical point is almost negligible as shown in Figure 8. The same procedure is carried out interchanging the roles of J_z and D if appropriate.

To check the Ising universality class, we also carried out the finite size scaling analysis of the staggered magnetization[15]. The staggered magnetization operator is defined by $\hat{M}_{\text{stag}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N S_i^z (-1)^i$. In finite size systems, the average $\langle \hat{M}_{\text{stag}} \rangle$ vanishes identically. Therefore, we calculate instead $M_{\text{stag}} \equiv \sqrt{\langle \hat{M}_{\text{stag}}^2 \rangle}$ by

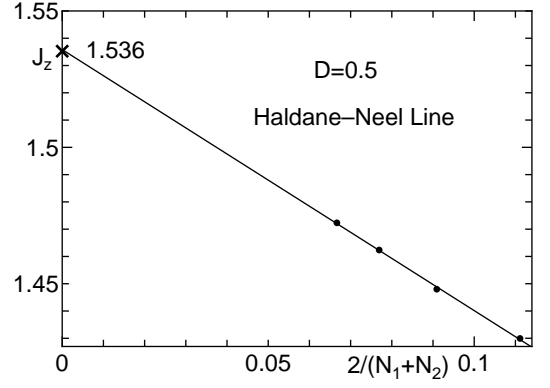


FIG. 7: The extrapolation procedure of finite size critical point $J_{zc}(\text{HN})$ for $D = 0.5$.

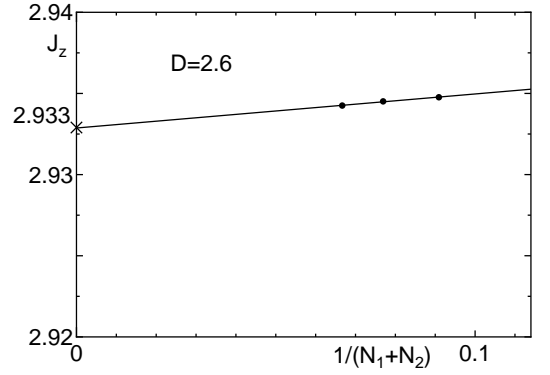


FIG. 8: The extrapolation procedure of finite size $J_{zc}(\text{HL})$ for $D = 2.6$ and $(N_1, N_2) = (10, 12), (12, 14), (14, 16)$.

numerical diagonalization with periodic boundary conditions for $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$ and 16 . The finite size scaling plot is shown in Figure 9 for $D = 2.6$ with Ising exponent. It is clearly seen that the most data collapse onto a single curve for $J_z \gtrsim J_{zc}$ (Néel side). On the Haldane side, the width of the Haldane phase is extremely small so that the data do not collapse well for $J_z < J_{zc}$.

However these two specific features of the Ising critical line break down for $D \gtrsim 3.0$. Actually, the finite size scaling plot of M_{stag} assuming the Ising universality class fails to collapse onto a single line already for $D = 2.9$ as shown in Figure 10.

For $D > 3.0$, the system size dependence of the critical point again becomes large. Therefore we have also determined the critical point from the intersection point of M_{stag} for two successive system sizes $N_1 = N$ and $N_2 (= N + 2)$ as shown in Figure 11 for $D = 3.5$. In this regime, if we assume the first order transition, the correlation length remains finite even at the transition point. Therefore the four intersections calculated by both methods for $(N_1, N_2) = (8, 10), (10, 12), (12, 14)$ and $(14, 16)$ are extrapolated to $N \rightarrow \infty$ by $J_{zc}(\text{LN})(N) = J_{zc}(\text{LN})(\infty) + C_1 \exp(-(N_1 + N_2)/2\xi)$ as shown in Figure 12 for $D = 3.5$. The transition point in thermodynamic

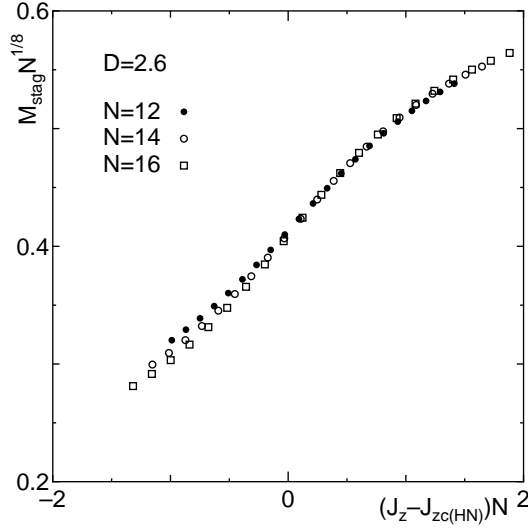


FIG. 9: The finite size scaling plot of the staggered magnetization near the Haldane-Néel transition point for $N = 12, 14$ and 16 .

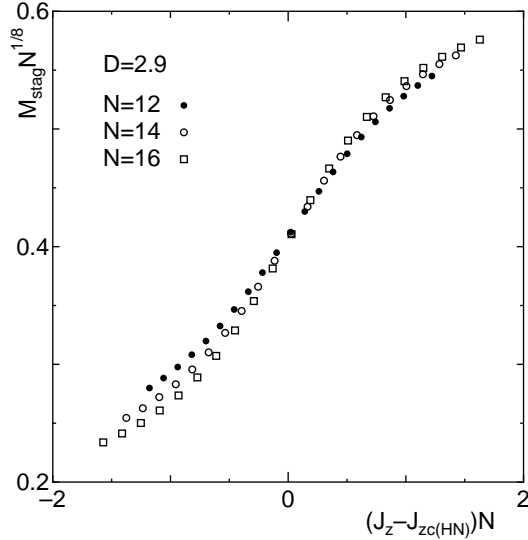


FIG. 10: The finite size scaling plot of the staggered magnetization near the large- D -Néel transition point for $N = 12, 14$ and 16 .

limit determined by the two methods coincide well as shown in Figure 12. It should be noted that the transition points extrapolated by the power law do not coincide with each other in this regime. This confirms again that this transition is the first order transition.

The precise position of the Haldane-large- D -Néel tricritical point is difficult to determine. However, we estimate it from the point at which the Haldane-Néel critical line merges the Haldane-large- D critical line. We carefully estimated the errors of both critical lines by trying the extrapolation to $N \rightarrow \infty$ choosing various sets of system sizes among $N = 16, 14, 12, 10$ and 8 as shown in

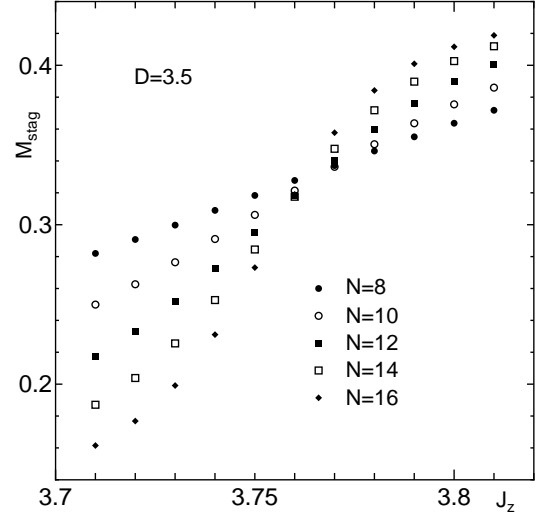


FIG. 11: The J_z dependence of the numerically obtained M_{stag} for $D = 3.5$ for various values of N .

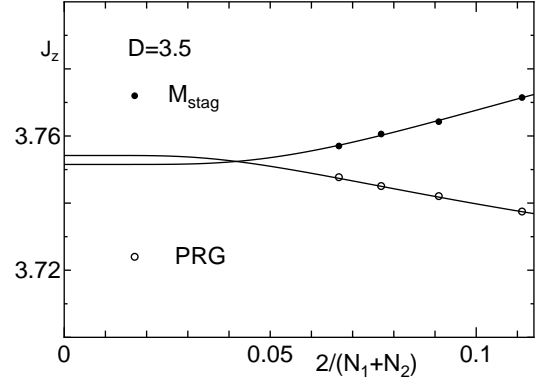


FIG. 12: The extrapolation procedure of finite size $J_{zc(\text{LN})}$ to $N \rightarrow \infty$ by $J_{zc(\text{LN})}(N) = J_{zc(\text{LN})}(\infty) + C_1 \exp(-(N_1 + N_2)/2\xi)$ for $D = 3.5$. The critical points calculated from M_{stag} and PRG are represented by \bullet and \circ , respectively.

Figure 13. From this figure, the two critical lines seem to merge around $(J_z, D) \sim (3.2, 2.9)$. As explained above, it is checked that the universality class clearly deviates from the Ising type around $D = 2.9$ while Ising universality class is confirmed around $D = 2.6$. Taking the whole situation described above into account, it is most likely that the tricritical point is located around $(J_z, D) \sim (3.2, 2.9)$ and the Haldane-Néel line is the Ising critical line and the large- D -Néel line is the first order line all the way down to the tricritical point.

C. Large- D -XY and Haldane-XY transition line($J_z \leq 0$)

From symmetry consideration, this transition is expected to be the Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless (BKT) transition. Because the BKT transition is a gapful-

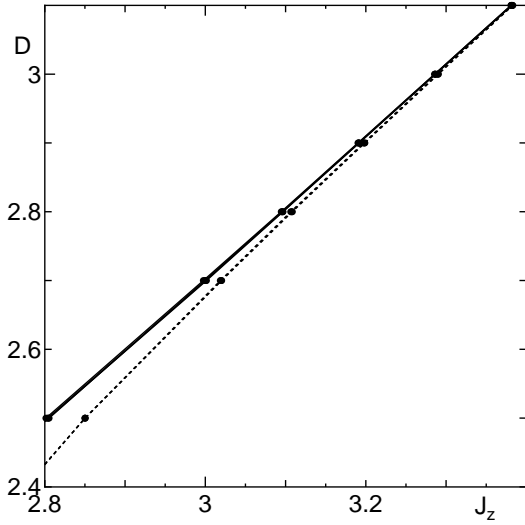


FIG. 13: The enlarged figure of the phase boundary around the tricritical point. The solid (dotted) lines are the Haldane-large- D (Haldane-Néel) critical lines extrapolated from various choices of finite size data.

gapless transition, the critical points are difficult to determine. Following the procedure proposed by Nomura[3, 6, 7, 8], the critical point is determined by the crossing point of the excitation energy of the lowest excitation ΔE_3 with $M^z = 4, P = 1, k = 0$ and ΔE_0 with $M^z = 0, P = 1, k = 0$ where k is the wave number of the excitation.

At the transition point these two energy levels cross as shown in Figure 14 for $N = 16, D = 0.5$. From the crossing point, we obtain the finite size large- D -XY transition point. The BKT transition point for the infinite system can be obtained by extrapolating from $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$ and 16 to $N \rightarrow \infty$ as $J_{zc(\text{LXY})} = -0.183$ as shown in Figure 15 for $D = 0.5$. The extrapolated value is represented by \times .

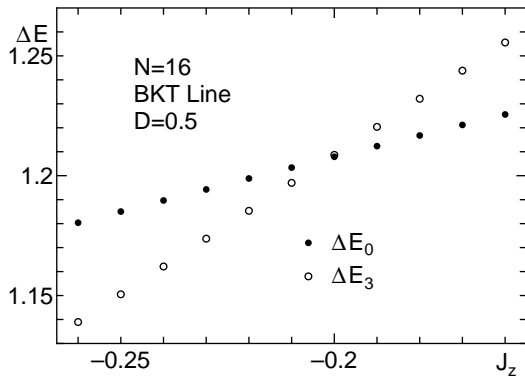


FIG. 14: The J_z dependence of the energy ΔE_3 and ΔE_0 represented by \circ and \bullet , respectively, for $D = 0.5$ and $N = 16$.

The same procedure is carried out for the Haldane-XY transition line. From the results of numerical calculation,

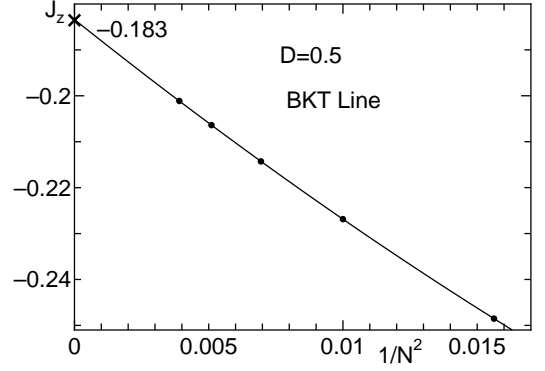


FIG. 15: The extrapolation procedure of finite size $J_{zc(\text{LXY})}$ for $D = 0.5$.

The critical points $J_{zc(\text{HXY})}$ are always equal to zero for the Haldane-XY transition. This can be understood in the following way for large negative D . In this case, the spin states of the original model are restricted to $|S^z = \pm 1\rangle$ on each site. These states are identified with the effective $S = 1/2$ spin states $|S_{\text{eff}}^z = \pm 1/2\rangle$. We use the perturbation method with respect to $1/D$ and J_z to calculate the effective coupling between these effective $S = 1/2$ spins. The effective Hamiltonian \mathcal{H}_{eff} is given by,

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = \sum_{i=0}^N \left[\frac{1}{|D|} (S_i^x S_{i+1}^x + S_i^y S_{i+1}^y) + \left(\frac{1}{|D|} + 4J_z \right) S_i^z S_{i+1}^z \right]. \quad (4)$$

discarding the constant term. For $J_z = 0$, this effective model becomes the isotropic antiferromagnetic Heisenberg model. It is exactly known that the XY-Néel transition takes place at the isotropic point for $S = 1/2$ XXZ chain. Therefore the XY-Néel transition of the original model takes place at $J_z = 0$ for large negative D .

D. XY-ferromagnetic and large- D -ferromagnetic transition line ($J_z < 0$)

We can numerically verify that the ground state energy between the non-magnetic ground state with $M^z = 0$ and fully polarized ground state with $M^z = N$ crosses at the XY-ferromagnetic transition line as shown in Figure 16 using the exact diagonalization for sizes $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$, and 16 with periodic boundary conditions. The partially polarized states have always higher energy. The crossing point is the finite size first order phase transition point $D_{c(\text{XYF})}(N)$ or $J_{zc(\text{XYF})}(N)$. We use $D_{c(\text{XYF})}(N) = D_{c(\text{XYF})}(\infty) + C_1 N^{-2} + C_2 N^{-4}$ or $J_{zc(\text{XYF})}(N) = J_{zc(\text{XYF})}(\infty) + C_1 N^{-2} + C_2 N^{-4}$ to extrapolate $D_{c(\text{XYF})}(N)$ or $J_{zc(\text{XYF})}(N)$ to $N \rightarrow \infty$ as shown in Figure 17. The same procedure is carried out also for the large- D -ferromagnetic first order line.

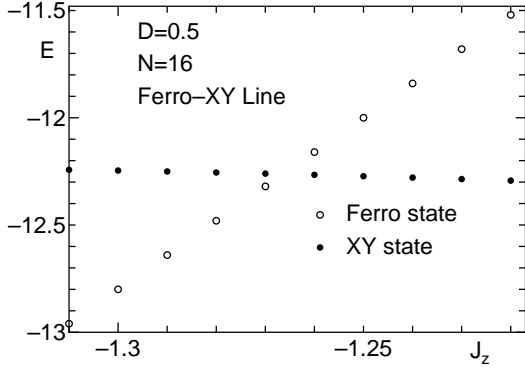


FIG. 16: The J_z dependence of the ground state energy of the XY phase and ferromagnetic phase is represented by \bullet and \circ , respectively, for $D = 0.5$ and $N = 16$.

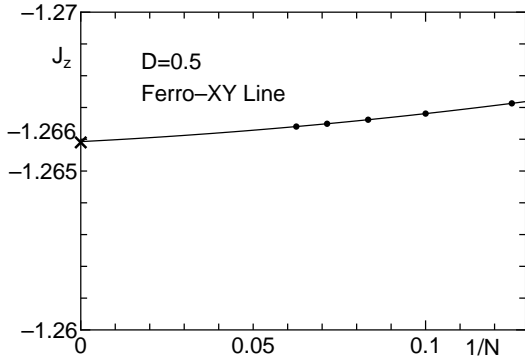


FIG. 17: The extrapolation procedure of finite size $J_{zc}(\text{XYF})$ for $D = 0.5$.

As explained in the preceding subsection, for $D \rightarrow -\infty$, this model can be described by the effective model (4). It is known that for $S = 1/2$ XXZ chain, the XY-ferromagnetic transition takes place at the isotropic ferromagnetic point. Therefore the corresponding phase transition takes place at $J_z = (2|D|)^{-1}$ for the original model. The numerically obtained transition line seems to approach this line for large enough negative D as shown in Figure 1.

E. Transition line between two different XY phases ($D < 0$ and $J_z < 0$)

Within the XY phase, there are 2 different types of phases as predicted by Schulz[4]. For large negative D , we find the lowest excited state with the excitation energy of the order of $1/N$ has quantum number $M^z = \pm 2$ that corresponds to the $M^z = \pm 1$ excitation in the effective Hamiltonian (4). This phase corresponds to the XY phase of the effective model. In this phase, the $M^z = \pm 1$ excitation can be only excited by forming the local $|0\rangle$ state that has the finite energy gap of the order of $|D|$. With decreasing $|D|$, the $M^z = \pm 1$ excitation becomes

the lowest with excitation energy of the order of $1/N$. This phase is continuously connected with the XY phase of the $S = 1$ XXZ model with $D = 0$. Corresponding to the change of the quantum number of the lowest excitation, these two phases have different type of quasi-long range order. In the XY phase with large negative D (XY2 phase), the correlation functions $\langle S_i^{x2} S_j^{x2} \rangle$ and $\langle S_i^{y2} S_j^{y2} \rangle$ decay with a power law dependence while $\langle S_i^x S_j^x \rangle$ and $\langle S_i^y S_j^y \rangle$ decay exponentially. On the other hand, in the XY phase with small negative D (XY1 phase), the correlation functions $\langle S_i^x S_j^x \rangle$ and $\langle S_i^y S_j^y \rangle$ decay with a power law. Therefore they can be regarded as two different phases. The level crossing point of the $M^z = \pm 1$ excitation and $M^z = \pm 2$ excitation is the critical point between these two XY phases. An example is shown in Figure 18 for $J_z = -0.1$ and $N = 16$. The $M^z = \pm 1$ gap and the $M^z = \pm 2$ gap are shown by \bullet and \circ , respectively. The value of D on the intersection point is $D_{c(\text{XYXY})}(N) = -2.008$. We use $D_{c(\text{XYXY})}(N) = D_{c(\text{XYXY})} + C_1 N^{-1} + C_2 N^{-2}$ to extrapolate $D_{c(\text{XYXY})}$ to $N \rightarrow \infty$ for $N = 8, 10, 12, 14$, and 16 as shown in Figure 19. The same procedure is carried out appropriately interchanging the roles of J_z and D .

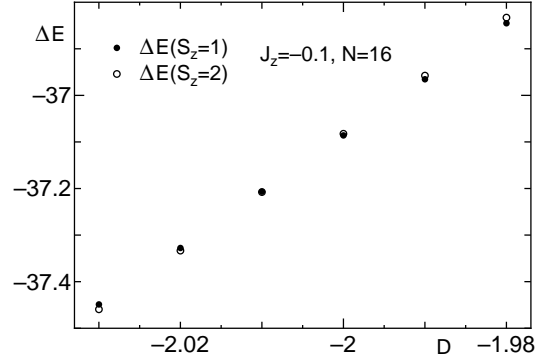


FIG. 18: The D dependence of the energy $E(M^z = \pm 2)$ and $E(M^z = \pm 1)$ represented by \circ and \bullet , respectively, for $J_z = -0.1$ and $N = 16$.

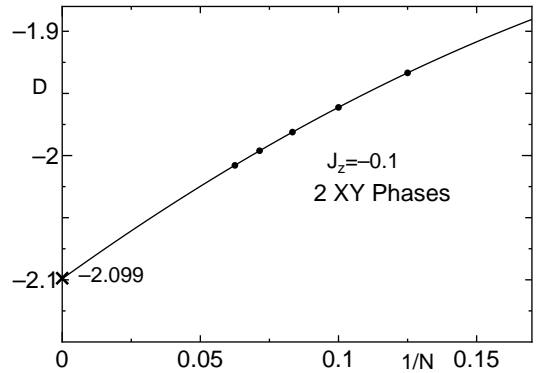


FIG. 19: The extrapolation procedure of finite size $D_{c(\text{XYXY})}$ for $J_z = -0.1$.

IV. SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

The ground state phase diagram of a spin-1 XXZ chain with uniaxial single-ion-type anisotropy is determined accurately by analyzing the numerical diagonalization data using the level spectroscopy, conformal field theory analysis, the phenomenological renormalization group and finite size scaling.

Most parts of the phase diagram is determined accurately and the universality class of most critical lines are obvious from symmetry consideration. The phase transition between the large- D phase and Néel phase is very likely to be a first order transition as expected from the consideration of the large D limit, although we have no final proof that it is so all the way down to the tricritical point. In this context, it is of great interest how the first order or Ising type transition line splits into a Gaussian (large- D -Haldane) and Ising (Haldane-Néel) lines.

Related to this problem, the precise position of the tricritical point remained ambiguous. We have determined

it from the point where the numerically obtained large- D -Haldane critical point and large- D -Ising critical point merge and the finite size scaling analysis of the staggered magnetization also supports this estimation. However it is difficult to determine this point accurately by numerical analysis. Further analytical insight into the properties of the tricritical point is necessary to elucidate this issue.

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